

ENS

Environmental Studies

ENS 200 INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES. (3)

A broad-ranging multidisciplinary introduction to current environmental issues and problem solving presented through a series of case studies. Case studies incorporate contemporary environmental themes including industrialization, resource use, and pollution; changing land use patterns; global warming and deforestation; biodiversity; political regulation; economic resources; cultural attitudes toward nature. Each case study will present environmental issues as scientific problems with social, political, philosophical, and economic causes and consequences. Emphasis is placed on understanding and combining different approaches to environmental problems and on proposing public policy solutions.

ENS 201 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES I: HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES. (3)

This course will provide a foundation in the core ideas, theoretical concerns and practical approaches to environmental studies framed within the disciplines of the humanities and social sciences. Students will study human interactions with the environment, both natural and built, and inter-human relations conditioned by local and global environmental factors. Students will obtain a basic conceptual and historical understanding of the nature and value of their local, regional, and global environment.

ENS 202 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES II: NATURAL SCIENCE AND POLICY. (3)

This is an introduction to natural science and policy as they pertain to understanding environmental studies. The core ideas include understanding how the ecological theories of population dynamics, community structure, and ecosystems dynamics lay a scientific foundation to understanding the nature of current environmental issues and how they might be addressed individually and through governmental regulation.

ENS 300 SPECIAL TOPICS (Subtitle required). (1-4)

Special topics in environmental studies. This course permits the offering of special topics in order to take advantage of faculty specialties. Course topic must be approved by the Environmental Studies Program Director. Prereq: Variable, when topic is identified.

ENS 395 INDEPENDENT WORK. (1-4)

Under special conditions selected students may investigate specific environmental issues and problems. The instructor and the student will agree on a formal semester plan/learning contract, which will be filed with the Environmental Studies Program Director and will include weekly reports to the instructor. Prereq: Environmental Studies minor, 3.0 G.P.A., consent of instructor.

ENS 400 SENIOR SEMINAR (Subtitle required). (3)

This course will draw on your interdisciplinary understanding of environmental issues and your problem-solving capacities developed while fulfilling Environmental Studies Minor requirements. It is a participatory capstone seminar designed to utilize and test your critical ability for independent thinking organized around specific environmental issues. Independent library work and writing assignments will be required in order to prepare for weekly, interactive topical seminar meetings. Group projects will culminate in individual term papers/projects on different aspects of the environmental issues under discussion. Specific topics will vary. Prereq: ENS 200 and 12 hours of course work from approved Environmental Studies courses (or instructor's consent). This course is a Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement (GCCR) course in certain programs, and hence is not likely to be eligible for automatic transfer credit to UK.

#ENS 601 ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY: ISSUES AND IDEAS. (3)

This course will survey some of the most important environmental problems (climate change, biodiversity loss, deforestation, water scarcity) and the tools needed to analyze, understand, and respond to these problems (market-based solutions, political economy, institutional economic theories, environmental ethics). Students will also explore new scientific ideas on sustainability to better understand the contemporary environmental problems the world is facing. With rigorous thinking about the science of sustainability, students will have the knowledge and skills so that they can help institutions, business, public policy, and individuals understand and act on key principles of sustainability. Prereq: Admission to the MA or Graduate Certificate in Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies or permission of instructor.

#ENS 602 ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY AND GOVERNANCE. (3)

This course will explore the roles of governments, markets, and civil society in the creation, adoption, and implementation of environmental and sustainability rules and norms. We will evaluate leading environmental and policy strategies, including traditional state regulation, market-based incentives and regulations created by private actors (civil society and corporations/Corporate Social Responsibility). Increasingly, the interactions between different forms of regulation figure prominently in debates about environmental and sustainability governance. We will draw upon empirical examples of governance and policy for a diverse reference set of environmental and sustainability challenges and solutions. Students will develop strong critical thinking and problem-solving skills in order to contribute to environmental and sustainability policy and governance. Prereq: Admission to online MA program or Graduate Certificate in Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies or consent of instructor.

#ENS 603 COMMUNICATING ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES. (3)

The course provides students an understanding of the latest scientific research in the field of environment and sustainability studies and the tools to communicate this research effectively to the public. In addition, students will learn key technical writing skills to apply knowledge in environmental and sustainability studies. For technical writing, students will develop skills for writing letters, grant proposals, reports, and presentations for specific audiences. To communicate with a broad audience about the questions central to environmental and sustainability studies, students will write short articles, record podcasts, make videos, craft memes, and author multimodal texts. Storytelling and clear description will also be emphasized across multiple platforms, which will include blogs, audio podcasts and short videos, among others. Students will build the critical skillsets necessary for technical writing as well as craft dynamic and compelling stories about environment and sustainability issues. Prereq: Admission to online MA or Graduate Certificate in Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies or consent of instructor.

#ENS 605 SEMINAR IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES (Subtitle required). (3)

Seminar in Environmental and Sustainability Studies, including, for example, environmental racism, environmental justice, sustainability ethics, environment and development, climate change and climate justice, environmental health, or environment and society. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits under different subtitles. Prereq: Admission to the online MA or Graduate Certificate in Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies or permission of instructor.

#ENS 695 RESEARCH IN APPLIED ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES. (3)

Students will complete a significant research project in environmental and sustainability studies that includes reviewing relevant literature and collecting data. Students will design an independent research project using recognized research methodology and will collect and analyze data under the guidance of their faculty advisor and graduate committee. A learning contract with project clearly defined must be approved by supervising faculty member. Prereq: ENS 601 and ENS 602 and ENS 603.

#ENS 696 REPORTING RESEARCH IN APPLIED ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES. (3)

This course is part of the Plan B Capstone option for the MA in Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies. Students will report on the significant research project in environmental and sustainability studies that they conducted in ENS 695 under the guidance of their faculty advisor. Students will complete a report on their research in a format agreed upon with their faculty advisor. Students will also create a blog post and give an oral presentation supported with visual aids (such as powerpoint) to demonstrate their ability to apply different forms of communication in environmental and sustainability studies. A learning contract with a clearly defined scope of the work and deadlines must be approved by the supervising faculty member. Prereq: ENS 603, ENS 695.

#ENS 697 INTERNSHIP IN APPLIED ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES I. (3)

Students pursuing the Plan B Internship option in the MA in Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies are required to complete six credit hours of internships in order to graduate and must work 40 hours for each credit hour earned. While students are ultimately responsible for finding and completing their internships, students do receive ample support and assistance from program faculty throughout the process. The activities to be carried out during internships must be mutually agreed upon by the student, their faculty supervisor, and the host organization supervisor. Internships can be completed during spring and fall semesters or the summer after students have completed their regular course work. Prereq: ENS 601, ENS 602, and ENS 603.

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#ENS 698 INTERNSHIP IN APPLIED ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES II. (3)

Students pursuing the Plan B Internship option in the MA in Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies are required to complete six credit hours of internships in order to graduate and must work 40 hours for each credit hour earned. While students are ultimately responsible for finding and completing their internships, students do receive ample support and assistance from program faculty throughout the process. The activities to be carried out during internships must be mutually agreed upon by the student, their faculty supervisor, and the host organization supervisor. Internships can be completed during spring and fall semesters or the summer after students have completed their regular course work. Prereq: ENS 601, ENS 602, ENS 603, ENS 697.

#ENS 699 INDEPENDENT STUDY IN ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES. (3)

Supervised individual work in Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies. A learning contract with a clearly defined project must be approved by supervising faculty member or program director. May not be repeated for additional credit. Prereq: ENS 601, ENS 602, and ENS 603 or consent of instructor.